

The Listening Post

A newsletter from the Kentucky Talking Book Library

Number 54

Spring 2009

Digital Books Update



Digital Machine Distribution Policy

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) has developed a new digital talking book player. We hope to begin receiving digital players and books this summer, but it will take a couple of years before we have enough machines for every patron to receive one. Once you receive a digital machine, you may still keep your cassette player to listen to magazines and older books.

You must contact us to be put on the waiting list if you are interested in receiving a digital machine and you must be a patron in good standing to get one. If you have overdue books, are inactive, or have a history of lost or damaged books or machines, your name will be skipped until you have re-gained good standing. We will provide copies of our Patron in Good Standing Policy upon request. Here is the order in which we will distribute digital talking book players:

- 1. Registered patrons who are U.S. military veterans—by law they are entitled to receive digital machines first. If you have not yet done so, please notify us of your veteran status. You may be asked to provide proof, such as a copy of your DD-214 form. Family members of veterans do not qualify.**
- 2. Members of the NLS 10² Club—users who are over 100 years old.**
- 3. Registered patrons with physical disabilities who are unable to use the standard cassette player--your original application must indicate that you qualified for our service due to a physical, not visual, disability. In these cases the digital machine will replace the discontinued E-1 machine.**
- 4. All other patrons will be placed on a waiting list and the list will be arranged according to how long you have been registered with our library. Those who have been patrons the longest will be first in line. Your ID number indicates when you were registered and it cannot be changed.**
- 5. We will contact you when a digital machine is available for you so you will know to expect it. Please remember that it may take 2-3 years before everyone who wants a digital machine gets one. We will not be able to give you an estimated time when you will receive yours.**
- 6. You are responsible for all materials that are checked out to you. Evidence of negligence, deliberate damage, or disregard of library policies may result in temporary suspension of digital service.**

KTBL appreciates your cooperation and your patience during this process.

Digital Book Policy

We expect to begin receiving digital talking books this summer. It will take several years to build up a sizable digital book collection. Many older cassette books will be made into digital books, but a great number will not be. You may wish to keep your cassette player to listen to older books that are only available on cassette. Magazines will continue to be produced on cassette tape for some time.

Digital book numbers will begin with DB. The mailing container will be similar to that of cassette books, except they are blue and approximately half as thick. There will be a limited number of digital books available during the transition process. In most cases we will have only 1 copy of each title. At this time we do not have the ability to make additional copies of digital books.

- You will be limited to only 1 digital book at a time.**

- Digital books will be mailed on a turnaround basis. We must receive your previous book before we will send another.
 - Digital book circulation will not affect your cassette or Braille circulation. You may continue to receive your regular number of books in those formats.
 - You are responsible for all materials that are checked out to you. Do not share books with anyone else, whether or not they are a registered talking book user. Evidence of negligence, deliberate damage, or disregard of library policies may result in temporary suspension of digital service.
 - Those who have a digital player, a computer, and high-speed internet access may download digital talking books and magazines electronically. We will provide more information on this service as we receive training ourselves.
-

Say Hello to Scott Patterson

Our newest staff member, Scott Patterson, joined the KTBL Circulation Dept. in January 2009. Scott is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and he is a retired carpenter who worked at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture. He and his wife, Jimmie Lynn, reside in Anderson County and have two children: a daughter who is studying forensic psychology at Georgetown College and a son in the 5th grade. In his spare time, he likes to listen to music (anything but rap) and read essays by Isaac Asimov. Scott has already been a tremendous help with our increased circulation and he is learning to duplicate tapes. We are very pleased to welcome him to Talking Books.

An Update on the Budget

Many of you who follow the news have asked how we are faring during the current financial situation. Like all state agencies, the Talking Book Library, which is part of the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives (KDLA), has experienced severe budget cuts in the past year. KTBL would like to extend its thanks to all of our patrons who showed support by contacting their state legislators to express their support for Talking Book Library service. While the recently-passed budget includes a further 4% budget cut on top of the 18% reductions made within the past year, revenue from new tax measures will spare us from the most dire scenarios. While we are operating on a very stringent budget, we are committed to providing high-quality service in these difficult economic times.

New Mail Cards

In late January, KTBL began using new mail cards for the books we send to you. On the side with our return address in Frankfort, there are now two checkboxes in the upper left-hand corner. The first box says, "Defective Book"; please check this box if you receive a book that has a damaged tape, is missing a tape, or has a tape that does not belong with that book. The second box says, "Send Another Copy"; please check this box if you would like to receive a different copy of the same book.

If you cannot see to mark the boxes or do not have someone to help you, please continue to mark a large 'X' on the mail card for defective books after you have turned it over to the side with our return address. We recommend that you call the library at 1-800-372-2968 if you want to receive another copy because we can immediately put one on reserve for you, but you may also include a note inside the box if you have marked it as defective. We also ask that you continue to put a rubber band or piece of string around defective tapes or include a note explaining the problem. Please do not fast-forward or rewind the tape away from the trouble spot so that our repair staff knows where to look for a problem.

KTBL Needs Your E-mail

Due to budget cuts KTBL has been forced to reduce expenses. One of our largest expenses is for producing our newsletter. This is the only way we have of notifying you about important news that affects your service, but it is very expensive to print thousands of large-print copies and duplicate hundreds of cassette tapes. On the other hand, it costs us nothing to email it. Please help us--if you have an e-mail address contact us at 1-800-372-2968 so that we can add it to your account and send you the newsletter via email. All patron information is confidential, and we will only use this e-mail for our newsletters or to contact you about official library business.

Donations

KTBL would like to thank the following people for making donations to our library. Your generosity makes our programs possible and is greatly appreciated by both staff and readers.

John & Anna Cook
Capital City Women's Club
Vera Dawson
Marian & David Fields
Glennie Garrett
James Gissing

Ermine Goodman
Marjorie Osterdahl
Richard Owens
Nathan Pierce
Charles Wells

In Memory of Mary Lee Shaw by Sally Wood, Mrs. Allen Wood, Selma Johnson, and Carolyn Kimbell

If you would like to contribute to KTBL, please make your check or money order payable to the Kentucky Talking Book Library, P.O. Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602-0537. Please do not send cash through the mail. Donations are 100% tax deductible. The Talking Book Library does not solicit donations by phone or by mail. If you receive such a request, please be aware that it does not come from or benefit KTBL.

New Descriptive DVDS

The following titles have been added to KTBL's descriptive DVD collection. These films have an additional audio track narrating the action on screen for those who cannot see it. Patrons who wish to check out descriptive DVDs or videos must complete a separate application. If you would like to fill out an application or place any of these films on your request list, please contact Greta Wise at 1-800-372-2968, ext. 279.

A Touch of Frost, Season 4 —Inspector Detective Jack Frost Mysteries
DVD-00188 – *Paying the Price* – Frost faces a ruthless kidnapper, and the female victim is running out of time.

DVD-00189 – *Unknown Soldiers* – A kid with a gun, an armored car robbery, and the murder of a soldier spoil Frost's rare day off.

DVD-00190 – *The Things We Do for Love* – Robberies distract Frost from the murder of a physiotherapist.

DVD-00191 – *Fun Times for Swingers* – Frost investigates the murder of a local gigolo and gets a new partner to tackle the theft case at a cricket club.

DVD-00192 – *Deep Waters* – An assault on a college student mirrors a case from two years ago, and there's a stabbing at the post office.

Other new descriptive DVDs:

DVD-00193 – *Frankenstein* – An adaptation of Mary Shelley's classic horror story about a monster brought to life by a scientist. 1973.

DVD-00194 – *The Upturned Glass* – A doctor seeks revenge for the murder of his mistress, a woman whose child he once treated. 1947.

Holiday Closings

The Talking Book Library will be closed for the following state holidays:

Friday, April 10th – closed at 1:00 p.m. Eastern for Good Friday

Monday, May 25th – closed all day for Memorial Day

Friday, July 3rd – closed all day for Independence Day

If you call during regular work hours and get a recorded greeting, it means our staff is helping other readers, or we are in a meeting. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Important Items to Remember

Kentucky Talking Book Library

P.O. Box 537

Frankfort, KY 40602-0537

1-800-372-2968 (toll-free)

1-502-564-8300 ext 276 (local)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. EDT

You may leave a voicemail message after hours.

We want you to enjoy Talking Books. Your librarian will tailor your service to suit your needs. She will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Please do not hesitate to call us for any of the following:

- **to make book requests**
- **with any questions or problems**
- **whenever your name, address, or telephone number changes**
- **to temporarily stop service**
- **if you want to change the types of books you get, or the number of books you receive**
- **when you have problems with books or machines**
- **if you want to change the format of your newsletters or catalogs**
- **to cancel your service**

Include your name, address, and telephone number on all correspondence, request lists, e-mails, and telephone messages. We frequently receive request lists with no name and no way to identify the sender.

Please return each book as soon as you finish it. The maximum loan period is 30 days.

Kentucky magazines and the cassette version of *The Listening Post* must be returned to KTBL within 30 days. Keeping the magazine or newsletter longer will prevent you from receiving future issues.

Remember to rewind all movies and cassette tapes before returning them.

Mark an "X" on the mail card of any defective book. Do not mark on the cassette.

Take care of all cassette books, Braille books, and cassette players; keep them free of food, liquids, dust, and debris.

Please keep this list for future reference.

Spring 2009 Book Order – Kentucky Scandals & Scalawags

If you would like to add any of these titles to your request list, please call your librarian at 1-800-372-2968, or check the boxes beside the titles and mail this sheet to: Kentucky Talking Book Library, P.O. Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602.

☐ KY 02840 A Wilderness of Tigers: A Novel of the Harpe Brothers and Frontier Violence by Kenneth Tucker. A fictional account of the real events that took place in the Western Kentucky wilderness during the 1790's. This account is based on one of the earliest recorded serial killer rampages. Silas Magby moves his family to Kentucky after the Indian Wars. The Harpe brothers follow to exact revenge and soon begin a disturbed killing spree. Magby must find a way to stop the Harpes. Some violence and strong language. 2005.

☐ KY 02197 Double Jeopardy: Obsession, Murder, and Justice Denied by Bob Hill. Mel Ignatow gets away with murder in this true story. Ignatow, who never served time for the torture and killing of Brenda Sue Schaefer of Louisville, recently passed away. Strong language, strong violence, and explicit sex. 1995.

☐ KY 01854 The Bluegrass Conspiracy: An Inside Story of Power, Greed, Drugs, and Murder by Sally Denton. Denton investigates a ring of corrupt Kentucky officials and bluebloods involved in smuggling massive amounts of cocaine. Major players include former Governor John Y. Brown and his top political aides, former police officer Andrew Thornton, and other Lexington-area notables who first became rich by breeding and racing horses. Some language. Long—5 cassettes. 1990.

☐ KY 01483 Beverly Hills: The Anatomy Of A Nightclub Fire by Robert G. Lawson. A meticulous account of the causes and consequences of the infamous 1977 fire in Southgate, Kentucky. 1984.

☐ KY 02183 Castle: The Story of a Kentucky Prison by Bill Cunningham. Chronicles the more than 100-year history of the Kentucky State Penitentiary in Eddyville, with murders, escapes, riots, and executions. The most infamous story involves a siege put down by the National Guard in the 1920s. Some language and violence. 1995.

☐ KY 01864 Bitter Blood: A True Story of Southern Family Pride, Madness, And Multiple Murder by Jerry Bledsoe. An acrimonious divorce leads to the murder of nine people in this true story involving wealthy families in Louisville and Winston-Salem. Some language and violence. Long-- 7 cassettes. 1997.

☐ KY 02079 A Dark and Bloody Ground: Outlaw Law, a Miser's Hoard—Lust, Greed, and Killing from the Beaches of Florida to the Mountains of Kentucky by Darcy O'Brien. True story of five people who go on a 10-year killing spree. Some language, violence, and sex. Long—5 cassettes. 1993.



In providing information to readers of The Listening Post, the Kentucky Talking Book Library does not endorse any product or service referred to in this newsletter.

The Listening Post



This newsletter was printed with funds from a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which administers the Library Services and Technology Act.

Sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, an agency of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.

**KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY
P O BOX 537
FRANKFORT KY 40602-0537**

**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND AND
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**



The Listening Post is available in large print, cassette, Braille, and e-mail formats. Call 1-800-372-2968 to request another format.